

Sample “Script” for Introduction of the System for Determination of Child Progress

“During this initial evaluation and IFSP process we will be assessing how your child functions in his/her everyday life at home and other settings that are typical to your family and child’s routine. We will be using the _____, a developmental assessment tool that looks at your child’s abilities in the areas of Gross Motor (large muscles and mobility), Fine Motor (small muscles), Self Help (feeding, toileting and dressing), Cognitive skills (problem solving and learning skills), Expressive and Receptive Language (how your baby communicates and understands language), and Social-Emotional development (how your baby interacts with the people in her/his environment). Additionally, in conjunction with recent federal guidelines, we will be determining how your child functions in three specific areas as compared to his/her same age peers. These areas were chosen because they were reported by families to be most important. We will report back to you your child’s strengths and upcoming skills from the assessment, in these three functional areas. We are doing this in an effort to determine the effectiveness of Part C services in helping you and your child to meet your outcomes. We’ll review this (annually* and) at the time your child is ready to leave the Infant & Toddler Connection of _____ to see what progress your child has made during his/her time in early intervention.

You are the experts on your child and your input will be the most valuable component of the evaluation as you participate in this process by describing how your child interacts with others in his/her environment, how he/she learns/acquires skills and knowledge, and how he/she gets his/her needs met. (This is a new system for us and we ask your understanding as we may be awkward at first as we complete this process together.”)

* For local systems who are doing interim assessments/ratings

** This may be helpful initially until evaluators become more familiar with the process